Kapuskasing District Fisheries Management Plan

1989 - 2000

Ontario

Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Lyn McLeod
Minister

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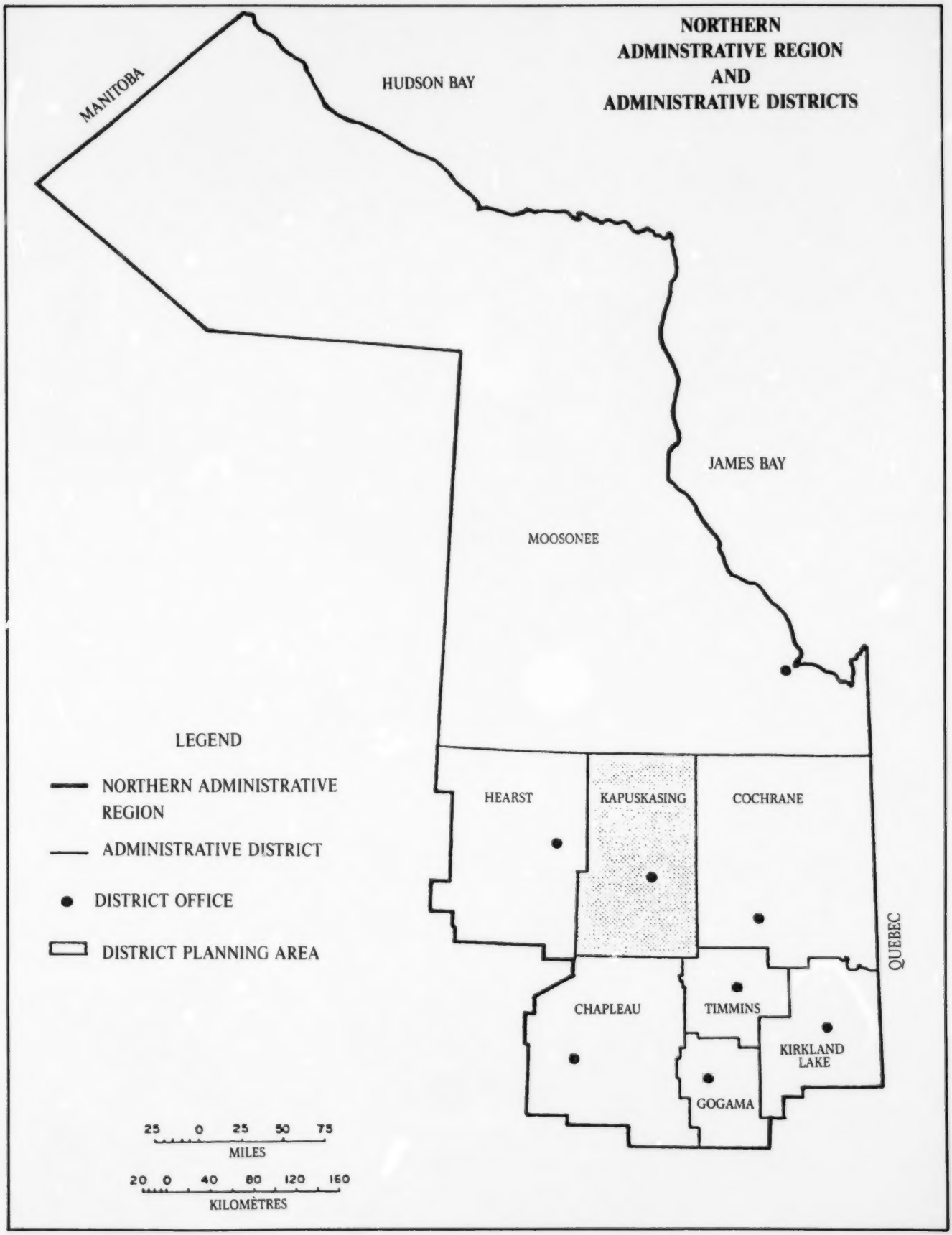
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KAPUSKASING
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LEGEND
NORTHERN ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
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DISTRICT OFFICE
DISTRICT PLANNING AREA
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KILOMÈTRES

PREFACE

This document identifies how the Ministry of Natural Resources intends to manage the fisheries resource in the Kapuskasing District to the year 2000. The major components contained in the plan include:

- fisheries resource information
- fisheries objectives and targets
- management strategies and tactics
- five year implementation schedule
- review of public consultation

This information forms the Kapuskasing District Fisheries Management Plan. The direction for the plan was derived from objectives and targets identified in the Kapuskasing District Land Use Guidelines. The strategies and tactics are based upon an analysis of the Background Information and Optional Management Strategies Summary and from public consultation.

Finally, this plan provides the means by which the public and fisheries managers may measure the progress of the Kapuskasing fisheries management program.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Kapuskasing District Fisheries Management Plan is to identify how the fisheries resource in the district will be managed to the year 2000. This plan identifies specific management actions required to achieve stated objectives, thereby providing direction to fisheries management staff. The planning process also provides an opportunity for public participation in fisheries management.

1.2 Planning Process

The context for the Kapuskasing District Fisheries Management Plan was established by the Strategic Land Use Plan (SLUP 1982) for Northeastern Ontario, which provided broad direction, and the Kapuskasing District Land Use Guidelines (DLUG 1983) which identified fisheries objectives and targets. In addition to this general planning framework, the technical direction for the fisheries plan was provided by the Strategic Plan for Ontario Fisheries (SPOF 1976).

This fisheries plan has been prepared in conjuction with other district resource management plans concurrently being developed. These plans include Timber Management Plans, Provincial Park Plans, the Roads Strategy, and the District Cottaging Strategy. Direction will also be provided to the District Enforcement Plan.

The Kapuskasing District Fisheries Management Plan was initiated in 1984 with the completion of a detailed background report. In November 1986 a public notice of intent to begin the formal planning phase was released, including a request for public input. A summary of Background Information and Optional Management Strategies was presented at a public open house in January 1987. Following the open house a draft fisheries management plan was prepared incorporating public input and district fisheries management information. This draft plan was released for public review at an open house in April 1988. The final fisheries plan incorporates input from all stages of the planning process.

This fisheries management plan will be implemented beginning in 1989 through to the year 2000. The specific managment strategies and tactics designed to achieve the plan's stated targets are identified in sequential implementation schedules. The first implementation schedule is contained in this document. Following the first five year planning period, the Plan's objectives and targets will be reviewed and a new implementation schedule will be prepared. Any major amendments to the plan, including the five year review, will require public consultation. Amendments to the plan will follow the Amendment Procedure for District Fisheries Management Plans in the Northern Region. Minor changes will be documented on file.

2.0 DISTRICT FISHERIES PERSPECTIVE

2.1 Physiography

The Kapuskasing Administrative District of the Ministry of Natural Resources comprises 21,225 square kilometers of land and water (Fig. 1). The total water area is 1565 square kilometers divided among 3180 lakes and 11,270 kilometers of rivers. The entire district lies within the Hudson-James Bay watershed, with five major rivers dominating the drainage pattern.

The majority of lakes in the district (85 percent) are less than 10 hectares in size and only four are greater than 1000 hectares. Rivers and streams account for 68 percent of the total district water area. Lake morphology has been influenced by glacial history and bedrock geology. Much of the district's land base is dominated by the Northern Clay Belt with deep poorly drained clay soils often covered by peat deposits (DLUG 1983). Most of the warm water lakes are small, shallow, and irregular in shape with gently sloping banks and are generally yellow-brown in colour. Cold water lakes are limited in number; small, deep, clear and generally associated with eskers or moraines left by the retreating continental glaciers.

Climatic conditions in the Kapuskasing area contribute to slow growth and late maturation of fish. The mean annual growing season is relatively short, ranging from 167 days in the central areas to 154 days in the extreme north of the district. The combination of climate and shortage of suitable habitat (few lakes) results in a relatively low overall production of popular sportfish in the Kapuskasing District. This low capability to produce fish has been an important consideration in the development of this fisheries management plan.

Additional information on the district's physiography may be obtained from the Background Report to the Kapuskasing District Fisheries Management Plan (1984).

2.2 Resource Productivity and Utilization

Sport fishing represents the greatest harvest pressure on the fisheries resource in the Kapuskasing District. At the present time, there are no commercial fishing licences in the district.

The annual allowable[1] sportfish (all species) yield was estimated in DLUG (1983) at 361,000 kg/yr and refined in the DFMP Background Information Summary (1986) to 145,000 kg/yr (Table 1). This refinement was based upon an inventory and analysis of district fisheries data and reflects the potential of district waters to produce sportfish.

The total annual sport fishing effort has been estimated at 51,000 angler days, 93 percent of which can be attributed to resident anglers. The total sport harvest is presently estimated to be 49,000 kg/yr (Table 1).

Projections of angler effort and harvest indicate a 12 percent increase from 1983 to the year 2000. This increase translates into 57,000 angler days with a harvest of approximately 53,000 kg/yr of fish. This value falls well within the allowable yield estimate of 145,000 kg/yr; however, concentration of effort on easily accessed waters and on only a few species is expected to cause over exploitation problems in some district waters.

[1]Allowable yield — amount of fish which may be removed from a system without impairing brood stock maintenance or altering fish community structure.

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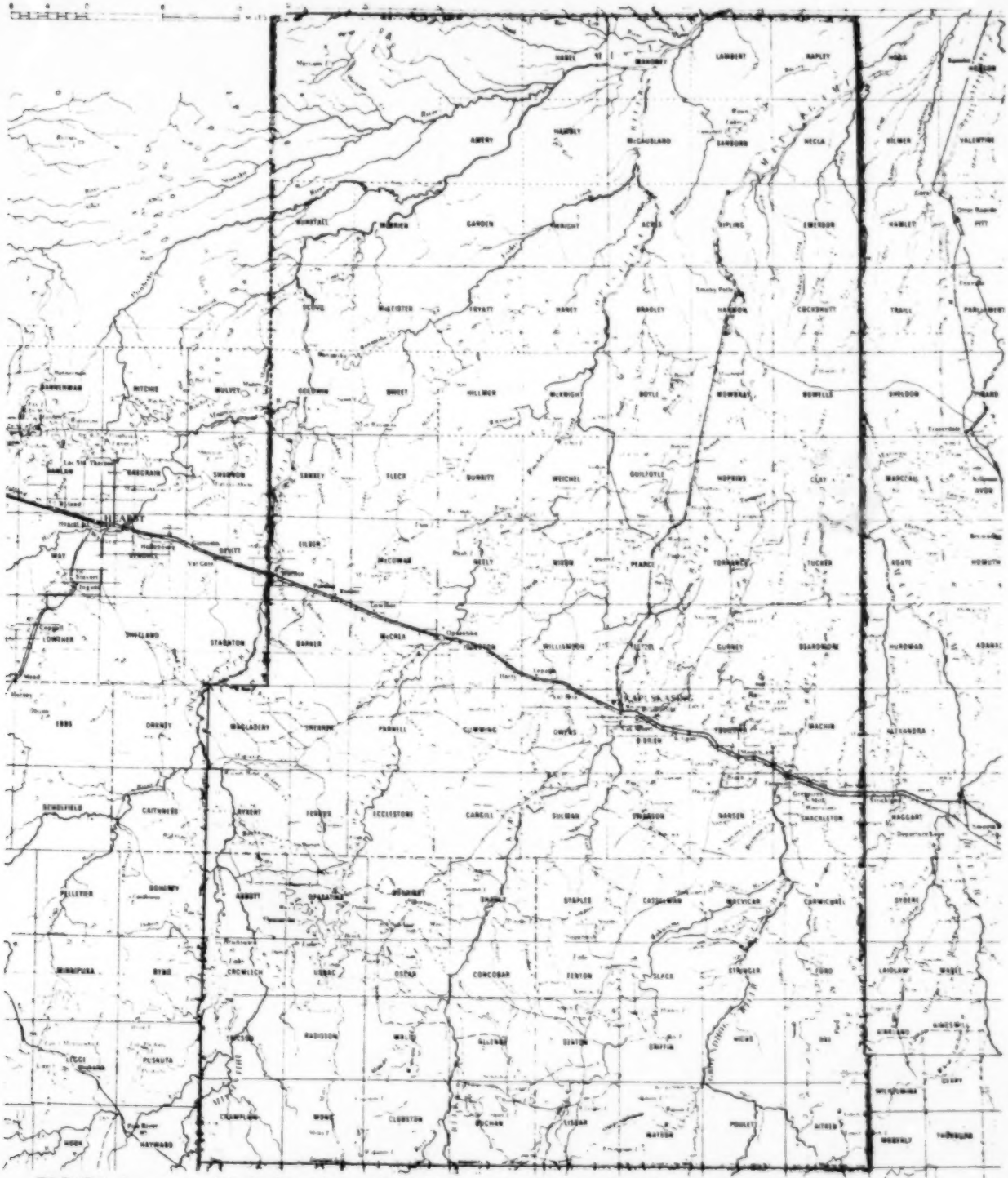

FIGURE 1 - Distribution of lakes and rivers in the Kapuskasing District.

Table 1 Fisheries Production and Utilization, Kapuskasing District

	Annual Sport Fish Yield ('000 Kg/Yr)	Present Angler Use ('000 Days/Yr)	Projected[1] Angler Use ('000 Days/Yr)	Present Sport Fish Harvest ('000Kg/Yr)	Projected[1] Demand ('000 Kg/Yr)
DLUG 83 Background Information	361.0	51.0	57.0	47.0	53.0
DFMP 86	145.0	51.0	57.0	49.0	52.7

[1] Projections are to the year 2000.

Sportfish allowable annual yield and present utilization by individual species is presented in Table 2. This table demonstrates a strong demand for lake sturgeon and trout, relative to production, while northern pike, lake whitefish, yellow perch, and smallmouth bass remain underutilized. The walleye harvest accounts for 48 percent of the total district sportfish utilization at the present time.

The apparent surplus walleye production relative to demand is somewhat misleading. Most walleye angling effort is concentrated on the larger accessible lakes while smaller and remote lakes are underutilized. The district's streams and rivers are also relatively underutilized and support 55 percent of the walleye production.

Table 2 Individual Fish Species Production and Utilization, Kapuskasing District

Species/Group	Annual Allowable Yield Kg/Yr	Present Use Kg/Yr
Walleye	50,310	23,450
Northern Pike	41,180	11,740
Lake Sturgeon	4,830	4,900
Trout[1]	1,720	1,830
Underutilized Species[2]	47,010	7,080
Total	145,050	49,000

[1] Trout include: brook trout, lake trout, rainbow trout and splake.

[2] Underutilized Species include: lake whitefish, yellow perch, and smallmouth bass.

2.3 Access

Access to most of the district fisheries resource is a function of forest industry activity. This access network is extensive, but dynamic by nature since roads are usually maintained only while forestry operations are being conducted. The issue of access is further compounded in that roads in the clay belt deteriorate quickly following abandonment.

Roads do not directly access many important waterbodies. Road access to these waterbodies has been identified through public consultation as one of the major issues related to district fisheries. Financial resources available to maintain or enhance access are, however, limited.

2.4 Problems and Issues

2.4.1 Exploitation

Over exploitation has been identified as a problem affecting walleye, sturgeon, and trout populations in some district waters. (DFMP Background Information Summary 1986). A shortage of suitable waters has concentrated angling pressure on a few accessible areas such as, the Opasatika Complex and has resulted in a walleye harvest at least equal to that of the allowable yield. Continued heavy fishing pressure on walleye in these waters may cause population declines and shifts in fish community structure.

The popularity of sturgeon fishing has increased in recent years, with most effort concentrated on one small area of the Groundhog River known as the "Pot". Estimates of harvest are approximately equal to the annual production based on the results of a study conducted between 1982 and 1984 (Nowak and Jessop 1987). Special management attention will be required to maintain this world class fishery.

There is a relatively high demand for trout with a limited supply of lakes suitable for stocking. Native brook trout do occur in district streams, however, many of these streams are remote and receive little angling pressure.

Access to angling opportunities will continue to be an ongoing issue in the Kapuskasing District. New access may help to disperse fishing pressure, though it may also result in a rapid fishing-up process in many of the district's small or medium sized lakes. In extreme cases this fishing-up could result in a complete collapse of sought after fish populations. The greatest impact is usually on walleye populations. Effective harvest regulations are required prior to new road access to ensure smaller waterbodies will be able to accommodate the increased angling pressure.

2.4.2 Habitat Degradation

Habitat degradation is another source of concern to fisheries management. Degraded habitat limits fish production. Examples of habitat degradation in the Kapuskasing District have included industrial pollution, waterlevel fluctuations due to hydro-electric generating activities, erosion, log driving, and poor stream crossing practices. Recent advances, however, have been made in the area of environmentally sound stream crossing techniques and older crossings are being rehabilitated.

2.4.3 User Perceptions

The perceptions and attitudes of some resource users are having a negative affect on the resource. Misconceptions, lack of awareness, and poor angling ethics have contributed to localized fisheries declines in the Kapuskasing District.

2.4.4 Lack of Fisheries Knowledge

An adequate knowledge of harvest levels and fish population attributes is required to make effective fisheries management decisions. A discussion concerning minimal knowledge of the Kapuskasing District fishery is contained in the DFMP Background Information Summary (1986).

2.5 District Fisheries Information

A map identifying coldwater lakes and streams is enclosed in the back cover pocket of this document. All remaining lakes and rivers support warmwater fisheries. The map also identifies fishing division boundaries, sanctuaries, tourism facilities, roads, and dams.

3.0 MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

3.1 Broad Objective

The Kapuskasing District Land Use Guidelines (1983) established a broad fisheries management objective as well as specific objectives and targets. The purpose of these objectives and targets is to direct management effort and allow the Ministry of Natural Resources to meet future demands placed on the fishery. Any refinement or change in these objectives and targets resulting from the fisheries management planning process will require an amendment to DLUG (1983).

The broad fisheries management objective is to protect, enhance, maintain, and rehabilitate fish communites and their environment in order to provide an optimum contribution of fish, fishing opportunities, and their associated benefits to society. Implicit in this objective are the following principles which will direct fisheries management in the Kapuskasing District:

- resource extraction and development proposals will be reviewed in the context of the "No Net Loss" philosophy of fish habitat management.
- fish populations will be managed on a sustained yield basis;
- balanced native fish communities will be retained in district waters;
- native or naturalized trout, may be introduced and maintained by stocking into suitable new waters when compatible with indigenous fish populations and in accordance with the Environmental Assessment Act. Walleye, smallmouth bass, and lake sturgeon may be introduced under similar circumstances through adult and juvenile fish transfers.

The board objective was developed from a provincial perspective and is a statement of the Ministry's overall intent with respect to fisheries management. For the purpose of district fisheries planning, this objective is refined into more specific objectives and targets which are used as the basis for the development of strategies and tactics. These refinements include a sportfish objective with individual targets by fish species or groups of species. The lake trout objective and target of DLUG (1983) has been incorporated into the sportfish objective and included in the specific trout target. A further refinement has also been made to the walleye target by identifying specific harvest and quality angling targets to be achieved in individual lakes.

The commercial fish objective and target stated in DLUG (1983) has been essentially deleted from this plan. Only a procedure to deal with future requests for commercial fishing licences will be retained. The aspect of baitfish harvesting has also been retained with its own targets. Other fisheries management considerations discussed in this plan include fisheries enforcement, cottaging, tourism, and public consultation.

3.2 Sportfish

3.2.1 Objective

The sportfish objective is to maintain opportunites for a diversified angling experience and meet the future angling demand for all species within the limits of sustained yield management.

3.2.2 Target

The demand for sportfish will be satisfied through the provision of 54,900 kg/yr of fish by the year 2000.

The sportfish target established in DLUG (1983) at 361,000 kg/yr has been reduced and refined in the DFMP Background Information Summary (1986) into individual species targets (Table 3) and lake specific targets for walleye (Table 4). These targets reflect the district's potential to produce fish and are derived from a combination of the estimated annual allowable yields and the expected utilization by species of all productive waters.

Table 3 Species/Group Sportfish Targets

Species/Group	Target ('000 kg/yr)
Walleye	26.3[1]
Trout	2.2
Lake Sturgeon	4.8[2]
Northern Pike	13.9
Underutilized Species	7.7
Total	54.9

[1] The walleye target is divided into a lake target of 22,500 kg/yr and a river target of 3,800 kg/yr.

[2] This target is specifically for the Groundhog/Mattagami River

Table 4 Lake Specific Walleye Harvest and Quality Targets

Location (Lake)	Harvest Target[1] (kg/yr)	Quality Target[2] (kg/hr)
Opasatika Complex	3470	0.25
Remi	2190	0.2
Brunswick	3750	0.4
Saganash	1980	0.4
Torrance, Allan, Zadi, Shack, Pratt, Esmee, Keenoa, Griffin, Owlet, Ghost, Franklyn, Pearce, Guilfoyle	—	0.25

[1]Harvest target is based upon the annual allowable yield by lake.

[2]Quality target derived from a 1987 Brunswick Lake creel survey combining the catch per unit effort (0.8) and the mean weight of the harvest (0.5 kg). Brunswick Lake is considered to support one of the highest quality fisheries in the district. Other lakes were assigned quality targets consistent with their historic fisheries. The catch per day may be obtained by multiplying the quality target by 4 hours.

3.2.3 Discussion

A combination of many factors influence the possible directions of sport fisheries management in Kapuskasing District. The primary influences on the sport fishery are the short growing season and the limited distribution of lakes resulting in relatively low fish production. Most district lakes are shallow, producing such warm water species as walleye, northern pike, and yellow perch. Only a few smaller lakes are suitable for cold water production of trout. Most district anglers prefer to fish for walleye, in the more accessible large and medium lakes, exerting considerable pressure on these fisheries. A report on the Kapuskasing District's largest walleye fishery (Opasatika Complex) indicated a steady decline over a recent nine year period (Nowak 1985).

The management direction of this plan is to maintain the warm water lake fishery by providing for a specific level of angling quality while ensuring the harvest level does not exceed production. The cold water lake fishery will be maintained by the district's trout stocking program.

Kapuskasing District has the potential, in terms of fish production, to support a significant river and stream fishery for both warm water and cold water species. Because much of the angling pressure is concentrated on lakes, additional angling opportunities for river fishing are presently available. A northern pike and walleye river fishery as well as angling for native brook trout from streams will be promoted.

The presences of lake sturgeon in several Kapuskasing District rivers provides a unique angling opportunity for this rare species. Mangement efforts will be directed toward maintaining this fishery by ensuring that harvest does not exceed production.

Habitat degradation has been identified as an important limitation to fish production. Management efforts in this area will be directed toward rehabilitation, identifying causes of habitat destruction, and taking preventative action.

3.2.4 Strategies and Tactics

To achieve the sport fish objective and address the identified problems and issues a series of management strategies and corresponding tactics have been developed. These strategies will be implemented through sequential five year periods described in the next section **(4.0)** and are listed below as they relate to specific issues.

3.2.4.1 ISSUE: Exploitation

Strategy: Regulatory management of fish harvest.

Tactics:
- size limit restrictions such as a one fish over a maximum size regulation or slot limits. (eg., no person shall possess more than one walleye greater than 38 cm in total length or no person shall possess a lake sturgeon between 105 and 130 cm in fork length).
- season adjustments and sanctuaries to protect spawning fish populations.
- directed enforcement to problem waters.
- promote citizen involvement in enforcement through a "Report a Poacher" (RAP) program.

Strategy: Promotion of underutilized species and locations to redirect angler effort.

Tactics:
- promotional demonstrations at fishing seminars (ie. cooking and angling techniques for underutilized species)
- distribution of information, recipes and angling brochures.
- promotion of personal use dip net licence for lake white fish (ie. Remi, Gurney and Maxwell Lakes, and Mons Creek).

Strategy: Maintain angling opportunities by managing access.

Tactics:
- promote new access to angling opportunities where the fisheries resource can accommodate the increased pressure (ie. rivers). New access will be achieved through input into the timber management planning process.
- present level of access to medium and smaller sized lakes to be maintained until harvest regulations are in place to prevent over fishing.
- promote access to brook trout streams with trails and signs.
- maintain remote aspect of lower Groundhog River by limiting access.
- address issue of access to Brunswick Lake in Missinaibi Provincial Park Plan.

Strategy: Increase fish production and angling opportunities.

Tactics:
- introduce walleye and smallmouth bass into suitable new waters.
- monitor previous walleye and bass introductions to determine success.
- introduce lake sturgeon to upper reaches of suitable rivers.
- expand trout stocking program to suitable new waters where demand warrants.

Strategy: Maintain present level of fisheries based tourism.

Tactics:
- manage access to specified tourism lakes by providing input into timber management plans.
- assess winter fishery conflict with remote tourism.
- conduct semi-annual meetings with tourist outfitters.

3.2.4.2 ISSUE: Habitat Degradation

Strategy: Rehabilitate fish habitat to maintain and increase fish production.

Tactics:
- identify damaged habitat.
- construction and/or improvement of walleye spawning beds in lakes.
- construction and/or habitat improvement of stream spawning beds for walleye and brook trout.

Strategy: Prevent habitat degradation.

Tactics:
- provide input into all timber management activities utilizing the Timber Management Guidelines for the Protection of Fish Habitat (1988).
- conduct pre-, during, and post-construction inspections of work sites to ensure habitat is protected.
- review and prepare conditions of construction and operation for new developments that may impact fisheries habitat (eg. hydroelectric proposals).
- communicate importance of fish habitat to industry and general public.
- encourage industry to implement environmentally sensitive operational techniques when working in or near fish habitat.
- enforce Fisheries Act to protect fish habitat where required.

3.2.4.3 ISSUE: User Perceptions

Strategy: Facilitate public education to encourage awareness of fisheries problems and to attempt to change certain attitudes with respect to resource utilization.

Tactics:
- promote awareness and participation in Community Fisheries Involvement Program.
- conduct fishing seminars to highlight issues and promote changes in user attitudes such as species preference, fishing for fun, angler ethics, problems associated with stocking, etc.
- maintain a fish and wildlife advisory council to review fisheries related issues.

3.2.4.4 ISSUE: Lack of Fisheries Information

Strategy: Continue collection and analysis of fisheries information with emphasis on waters with existing or potential problems or waters where new angling opportunities could be promoted.

Tactics:
- monitor and assess angler harvest and effect on fish populations using creels, index netting, and fecundity studies to determine status of various fisheries and need for regulatory management.
- continue aquatic habitat inventories to identify potential lakes for trout stocking or introduction of walleye and bass.
- inventory native brook trout streams to determine angling potential.
- inventory critical fish habitat (spawning, nursery, rearing, migration) for input into other resource management plans (eg. Timber Management Plans).
- assess stocked and introduced lakes (winter oxygen, survival, recruitment).

3.3 Commercial Fish

A commercial harvest of species sought by sport fishermen is precluded in most accessible waters by the demand for recreational angling opportunities. The commercial harvest for underutilized sportfish species has not been feasible due to market and transportation limitations.

The procedure to deal with future requests for commercial fishing licences in the district will be to consider them on a case by case basis. Future allocations to a commercial fishery must be consistant with the principle of sustained yield management and must allow for the existing and future sport fishery requirements.

3.4 Baitfish

Objective: Maintain and encourage the harvest of baitfish to meet the future demand.

Target: Meet the anticipated demand of 13, 150 dozen baitfish by the year 2000.

Strategy: Encourage expansion of the baitfish industry.

Tactics:
- Enhance monitoring and encourage accurate reporting.
- Promote baitfish dealer's association.
- Conduct baitfish harvesting/production workshop.

3.5 Fisheries Enforcement

Objective: Provide enforcement to protect and enhance the fisheries resource.

Target: Enforcement efforts will be directed toward the areas of fish habitat monitoring, over exploitation, and public education.

Strategy: The Kapuskasing District Enforcement Plan will incorporate the targets derived from this fisheries plan. Areas requiring specific enforcement attention will be taken directly from the five year implementation schedule.

3.6 Cottaging

The present demand for cottaging is being addressed through the district cottaging strategy and through the provision of cottaging opportunities, in the short term, on Rufus Lake. Although cottaging may place additional constraints on fish production through increased angler pressure and habitat degradation, new regulatory management, including season and size limit adjustments, will be considered to prevent overharvest. Cottagers will also be encouraged to protect shorelines from habitat degradation through education efforts.

3.7 Tourism

Objective and Target: Established fisheries based tourism in the Kapuskasing District will be maintained at its present level. Future tourism expansion will be assessed on a case by case basis. Fisheries based tourism expansion will be allocated a portion of the allowable sport fish yield. This allocation will consider the present utilization of the fisheries resource by non-tourism based anglers.

Strategy: The present level of fisheries based toursim will be maintained through the management of access. Access to Clay, Nonigose, Eleanor, Neshin, McLeister, Hillmer, Wanzatika, and Martison will be managed according to the Timber Management Guidelines for the Protection of Tourism Values (1987). The issue of access into Brunswick Lake will be addressed in the Missinaibi Provincial Park Plan.

3.8 Public Input

Approximately 400 copies of the draft Kapuskasing District Fisheries Management Plan were distributed to the public during the consultation period in April and May of 1988. The public response to the plan was less than expected with only 19 responses being received. The open house and distribution of draft plan copies apparently served more to increase the public's awareness of fisheries management than to generate direct input. A summary of this public input to the draft plan may be found in Appendix 1.

Most respondents (11/19) mentioned some aspect of access to fishing opportunities as a concern. This was consistent with the input received in response to the open house held to present the Background Information and Optional Management Strategies in January 1987. The issue of access is addressed in the five year implementation schedule following this section. It should be noted, however, that access to many small lakes will be maintained at present levels until regulatory harvest management can be implemented to prevent overfishing problems.

Several People responding to the draft plan were in favour of the proposed size limit regulation for the Opasatika Complex. A one fish over maximum size regulation on this group of lakes may be implemented for walleye during the first five year implementation schedule.

Walleye culture was an aspect of fisheries management that several respondents felt should be encouraged. Walleye culture will be used to improve or create new fisheries through the Community Fisheries Involvement Program (CFIP) and according to provincial and regional guidelines. The role of CFIP in fisheries management is currently under review. Changes may occur which will affect future management actions.

The problem of fisheries habitat degradation was also a concern to the public. Most individuals felt more attention should be directed toward habitat rehabilitation and preventative measure. This fisheries management plan addresses various habitat concerns in the implementation schedule.

4.0 IMPLEMENTATION

All Fisheries management activities will contribute toward the attainment of the objectives and targets identified in this plan and will be consistent with identified strategies and tactics. Annual work plans will reflect the tactics established in this fisheries plan. The successful implementation of these tactics is subject to available funding.

The fisheries management tactics to be undertaken in the next five years are identified in a five year implementation schedule (Table 5). A map indicating the locations of the various management activities is found in the back cover pocket of this document. The first five year implementation will run from 1989 to 1993. This schedule will be updated annually to continually provide for a five year planning framework. Ongoing fisheries programs are listed in Table 6.

Subsequent five year implementation schedules will be formally included in the fisheries management plan following Regional approval and are subject to public consultation. This process will include a review of the fisheries plan's basic objectives, targets, and strategies to ensure the plan is addressing fisheries priorities of the times. Approved changes to the plan will be reflected in amendments to the District Land Use Guidelines if necessary.

The implementation of this fisheries management plan is subject to the provisions of the Environmental Assessment Act. Compliance with this Act may result in changes to the tactics identified in the plan.

Table 5 Five year Implementation Schedule, 1989-1993

ISSUE/Strategy	MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	LOCATION[1]
EXPLOITATION		
-Harvest Regulation	-implement maximum size limit for walleye	Opasatika Lakes Complex
	-implement slot size limit for sturgeon	Division 19
	-possible size limit restrictions implemented for walleye	Saganash L., Remi L., Guilfoyle L., Torrance L., Allan L., Zadi L., Griffin L., Shack L., Pratt L., Esmee L., Ghost L., Owlet L., Keenoa L., Franklyn L., Pearce L.
	-sanctuary April 1 to June 14	Mons Cr., Opasatika R. in McCrea Twp.
	-early close of walleye season - 3rd Saturday in March	Remi L., Guilfoyle L., Saganash L.
	-DFMP to set priorities for preparation of District enforcement Plan	Kapuskasing District
-Manage Access	-improve and develop access to large rivers	Kapuskasing R. - Fred Flatt Landing and O'Brien Twp., Con. XI & XII
		Opasatika River - Mile 6 of Fergus Rd.
	-improve access trails and post name signs for productive trout streams	Irene Cr., Firday Cr., Lily R., Bennett Cr., Mowbray Cr., Stringer Cr., Dunrankin R., Boyle Cr., Cosen Cr.

[1] Locations of specific management activities are in order of priority for implementation

Table 5 (cont'd)

ISSUE/Strategy	MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	LOCATION[1]
	-address issue of access to Brunswick L. in Missinaibi Prov. Park Plan	Brunswick L.
	-improve access trails and post lake name signs	#30, 43, 64, 68, 69 of Guilfoyle Twp. #6, 68, 69, 74, of Howells Twp. Overhill L., #11 Pearce Twp., #9, 10 of Teetzel Twp., Camp L., Smith L., East Trump L., West Trump L., Eva L., Nansen L., Swanson L., #15 Ericson Twp.
-Increase Angling Opportunities through Stocking and Introductions	-adult walleye introduction	Walkom L.
	-adult sturgeon introduction	Kapuskasing R. in Allenby Twp.
	-new trout stocking lake trout rainbow trout brook trout	Hastings Lake. #13 O'Brien Twp. #30 Pearce Twp., #10 Boyle Twp., #67, 93, Gravel Pit Lake of Howells Twp., #37, 39 of Guilfoyle Twp.
-Maintain Fisheries based Tourism	-assess winter fishery conflict with remote tourism	Wanzatika L.
HABITAT DEGRADATION		
-Improve Habitat	-improve walleye spawning habitat	Remi L., Fanning L., Bourinot Cr., #4 Opasatika Twp., Walkom L.
	-stream improvement	Rice Cr., Magladery Cr., Lily R., Doherty Cr., Irene Cr.

[1] Locations of specific management activities are in order of priority for implementation

Table 5 (cont'd)

ISSUE/Strategy	MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	LOCATION[1]
LACK OF FISHERIES INFORMATION		
-Collect and Analyze Fisheries Information	-conduct background studies on harvest and fish populations through creel, index netting and fecundity studies	Opasatika Complex, Saganash L., Remi L., Guilfoyle L., Torrance L., Allan L., Zadi L., Griffin L., Shack L., Pratt L., Esmee L., Ghost L., Owlet L., Keenoa L., Franklyn L., Pearce L.
	-conduct lake surveys to identify new lakes for stocking and introductions, and provide input into other resource management plans	#13, 18, 19 of Ericson Twp., #16, 18, 23, 24 of Wadsworth Twp., Moss L., Big Herring L., Townend L., #3, 5, of Teetzel Twp., Phipps L., Holden L., Clouston L., Maude L., Watson L., Kapik L., Theo L., East Neely L., Lyons L., #1, 14-20 of Cromlech Twp.
	-inventory of natural brook trout streams	Irene Cr., Friday Cr., Lily R., Bennett Cr., Mowbray Cr., Stringer Cr., Dunrankin R., Boyle Cr., Cosen Cr., Currie R., Nat R., Fire R., Bradley Cr.
	-identification of active spawning sites on natural trout streams	Wakusimi R., Friday Cr., Irene Cr., Lily R., Bennett Cr., Mowbray Cr., Stringer Cr.,
	-assessment of reproduction of small-mouth bass in introduced lakes	Bay L., Cooper L., Remi L., Clear L., St. Amand L., Raft L.
	-inventory critical fish habitat in waters adjacent to timber operations	Kapuskasing District

[1] Locations of specific management activities are in order of priority for implementation

Table 5 (cont'd)

ISSUE/Strategy	MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	LOCATION[1]
	-survival assessment of stocked trout lakes	#7, 11 Boyle Twp., #32 Pearce Twp., #15 Ericson Twp., Swanson L., #9 Teetzel Twp., #6 Howells Twp., Gravel Pit L., Mowbray L.
	-assessment of reproduction in walleye introduced lakes	Sandshore L., Bonner L., Lac Des Iles, Buchanan L., Walkom L.
BAITFISH		
-Expand Baitfish Industry	-conduct baitfish workshop for local dealers and harvesters	Kapuskasing District

[1] Locations of specific management activites are in order of priority for implementation

Table 6 Ongoing Fisheries Mangement Programs

ISSUE/Strategy	MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	LOCATION[1]
EXPLOITATION		
-Harvest Regulation	-direct enforcement to problem areas	as identified
	-promote "Report a Poacher" program	Kapuskasing District
-Promote Underutilized Species and Locations	-public education through angling brochures, etc.	Kapuskasing District
	-encourage harvest of whitefish by dip netting	Kapuskasing District
-Managing Access	-retain remote aspect of sturgeon spawning area between LaDuke Rapids and the "Pot" area	Groundhog River
-Maintain Present Level of Fisheries based Tourism	-plan roads and forest development to avoid conflicts with toursim lakes	identified tourism lakes
	-conduct semi-annual meetings with tourist outfitters	Kapuskasing District
HABITAT DEGRADATION		
-Improve Habitat	-train all MNR field staff to recognize habitat degradation	Kapuskasing District
Prevent Habitat Degradation	-review and provide fisheries input into timber management plans and annual work schedules	Kapuskasing District
	-conduct site inspections where timber operations or other resource extraction activities may impact upon fish habitat	Kapuskasing District
	-promote public education regarding importance of fish habitat	Kapuskasing District
	-strive for net gain of fish habitat when reviewing extraction and development proposals	Kapuskasing District
	-enforce Fisheries Act	Kapuskasing District

Table 6 (con'd)

ISSUE/Strategy	MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	LOCATION[1]
USER PERCEPTIONS		
-Public Education	-promote Community Fisheries Involvement Program	Kapuskasing District
	-conduct fishing seminars and attend club meetings	Kapuskasing District
	-maintain fish and wildlife advisory council	Kapuskasing District
BAITFISH		
-Expand Baifish Industry	-increase montoring and encourage accurate reporting	Kapuskasing District
	-promote baitfish dealer's association to improve communication and upgrade industry standards	Kapuskasing District

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APPENDIX 1

Kapuskasing District Fisheries Management Plan
Review of Public Consultation of Draft

- An advertised public presentation and meeting highlighting contents of draft plan on January 23, 1988.
- Similar presentation given to district fish and wildlife advisory council on February 2, 1988.
- Draft Plan in tabloid form mailed on April 20, 1988 to district fish and wildlife mailing list and to those attending the January 23 public meeting.
- Advertised open house held at the Kapuskasing Model City Mall on April 22 and 23, 1988. The open house represented the official release of the draft plan.

Participation

- January 23, public meeting attended by 62.
- February 2, advisory council meeting attended by 17 individuals representing various community groups and organizations.
- Approximately 200 draft plans were released in the initial mail out.
- At the open house another 146 draft plans were distributed to the public.
- Another 50 tabloids were handed out over the counter at the district office during the 30 day review period. A total of 396 individuals were effectively provided with a copy of the draft plan.

Responses

The draft plan contained a statement requesting the public to provide their comments on the plan to the District Manager in the 4 weeks following the plan's release. The review period lasted from April 23 to May 23, 1988. A comment form was provided with those copies of the plan distributed at the open house and over the counter at the district office.

The response to the plan was very limited. A total of 19 responses (in writing, over the phone, and in person) were received. Very few verbal comments were received during the actual open house. The open house apparently served more to increase awareness of fisheries management rather than generating responses to the draft plan.

The question of access to fishing opportunities was the issue most commented on by those responding to the plan (11/19). Within the broad issue of access, the comments were distributed as follows:

River Access

- Below Kipling dam, too dangerous due to unpredictable water flows.
- Access at Littlelong is already adequate.
- Camp 15 access on the Kapuskasing River already provided.
- Improve access ramp on Kap River above Hwy. 11 on SFPP ice road.
- Improve access to all rivers in general.

Groundhog River Crossing

- Forest Industry should be allowed to bridge Groundhog River in Beardmore and Tucker Townships to allow for cost effective harvest of wood. Access to sturgeon fishery and anticipated over harvest should be controlled by enhanced enforcement efforts (comments by two representatives of SFPP Co.).

Lake Access

- Provide for road access to Torrance, Pearce, Ghost, Owlet, Franklyn, Wabicock, Eleanor, Neshin and Five Pines Lakes. Specifically, provide better access by rebuilding the bridge over the Remi River on the Gurney Road and by maintaining the Pearce haul road.

Remote Tourism Access

- The plan should identify specifically other non-tourism lakes (if not some of the tourism lakes) where new access will be provided.
- Tourism lakes access should be allowed.
- Access to tourism lakes should not be restricted through road closures or gating. Instead, alternative methods of managing the fishery/tourism concern should be considered, including planning roads to avoid tourism lakes, reducing creel limits, and initiating slot limits (OFAH).
- Do not restrict winter access to Wanzatika Lake.

Other Access Issues

- Negotiate access with land owner across private property if Hastings Lake is stocked with lake trout.
- Access to various brook trout creeks may impact on archaelogical sites.

The remaining comments and concerns received in response to the plan are listed in the order of their relative importance as follows:

Slot Limits and One Over Maximum Size Regulation

- Three out of four comments on this management tactic were in favour of a size limit regulation. One respondent indicated that enforcement of such a regulation would be difficult although the idea was good. It was suggested that a voluntary slot limit program be initiated instead through public education.

Fish Culture

- Four respondents indicated walleye culture in the district should be maintained and encouraged. One of the above also suggested we support salmon culture.

Fish Stocking/ Introductions

- Stocked brook trout lakes should not be closed in fall.
- The "Pot" on the Groundhog River should not be used as a donor source for sturgeon introductions.
- Saganash Lake should not be used as donor lake for walleye transfers if it is being over exploited.
- Introductions of walleye should be proceeded by removal of "competing" species.

Habitat

- Timber industry should clean up after operations ie. removal of winter bridges, repairing stream crossing, etc.
- Hydro operations impact on spawning. MNR should address problem.
- Should remove beaver dams from spawning creeks.
- Habitat degradation by the timber industry is only a public perception rather than a reality. Education in this regard is required.

Other Comments

- The use of fish sanctuaries as a tool in protecting spawning fish should not result in reduced fishing opportunities over large areas. Rather, sanctuaries should be site specific.
- MNR should encourage public participation and work closely with local groups on fisheries management.
- Improve walleye fishery of Shackleton Lake.
- Fines should be increased to reduce illegal activities.
- Two general comments supporting plan.
- It is suggested that our target of 82000 kg of sportfish is unrealistic given that our present use is 46700 kg and our expected increase in demand is 12%. (not a wise use of tax dollars to manage for something already achieved).

MAPS
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